

Dear FCC Chairman Julius Genachowski,

Big corporations are now in the business of paying off non-profits and front groups to get them to mouth industry propaganda in letters to the FCC.

In a practice known as "astroturfing," groups claiming to represent the public receive considerable sums of money from corporations that have a stake in the outcome of FCC rule makings. In return, they send comments and letters to the FCC that repeat their benefactors' talking points, sometimes word-for-word.

As a result, the voice of individual citizens are drowned out by industry stooges. Force disclosure of which groups take money and who's really behind the astroturfing.

I urge the FCC to pass rules that shed light on these astroturfing practices, by requiring every organization to disclose conflicts of interest when submitting comments and other filings to the Commission.